

APPROVED MINUTES

Human Rights Commission

Monday, April 18, 2016

5:30 PM

McLeod Conference Room
1800 West Old Shakopee Road

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS – 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call** Present: Xavier Bicott, Maureen Carlson, Sheila Fishman, Dennis Kane, Daniela Kunkel, Jared Leese (arrive 5:33 p.m.), Johnathon McClellan, Savannah Salato, Ibrahim Yusuf (arrive 5:45 p.m.)
- Absent: n/a
- Staff: Lorinda Pearson, Manager and Staff Liaison, Human Services Division
Heather Lambert, Administrative Assistant, Human Services Division
- Guests: Cindy A. Jean-Baptiste, MPH, MA, Health Specialist – Planner, Public Health Division
- Chair D. Kane called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m. A quorum was present.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes - March 21, 2016** M/Z. Bicott, S/M. Carlson unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting as presented.
- 1.3 Adoption of Agenda** M/Z. Bicott, S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.
- 1.4 Announcements**
- A Good Time For The Truth: Race in Minnesota L. Pearson stated the book, A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota, is available in the HRC library. This book, edited by Sun Young Shin and published by the Minnesota Historical Society, features sixteen (16) Minnesota writers providing a range of perspectives on what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota. She stated as all the writers are local, the book could result in a possible program for the 2017 HRC Work Plan.
 - They Played for the Love of the Game L. Pearson also stated the book, They Played for the Love of the Game, is now available in the HRC library. Frank White, 2014 Omar Bonderud Award Winner, wrote this book which shares stories of African American baseball players in Minnesota, from the 1870s to the 1960s.
 - Naturalization Test Tutoring L. Pearson stated free Naturalization Test Tutoring is being provided by a Human Services volunteer. This service was requested by the public. To receive tutoring, individuals must register with Human Services at Creekside Community Center. A flyer for the Program was included in Commissioner electronic packets.
 - Mediation Brochure L. Pearson stated the HRC Mediation brochure has been updated and reprinted. The new brochures were passed out at the meeting.
 - Racial and Ethnic Disparities Among Older Adults L. Pearson stated the free workshop, “Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Among Older Adults” is taking place on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at Creekside Community Center. A flyer about the workshop was emailed to Commissioners, who are encouraged to attend.

II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.**2.1 Health Equity**

Cindy A. Jean-Baptiste, Health Specialist – Planner in the Bloomington Public Health Division, introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her education.

She provided the definition of health as "... a state of complete physical, social and mental well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (World Health Organization). She stated the following factors determine health:

- Social and Economic Factors (40%)
- Health Behaviors (30%)
- Genes and Biology (10%)
- Physical Environment (10%)
- Clinical Care (10%)

She stated per the World Health Organization, social factors such as education, employment status, income level, gender and ethnicity have a marked influence on how healthy a person is, and gave the statistic that 1/3 of US deaths can be linked to inequality and health inequities.

Ms. Jean-Baptiste stated Bloomington Public Health's approach on Health Equity is to:

- Build the capacity of their staff to understand and address health equity
- Expand their collaborative work, develop new relationships with the community and strengthen existing partnerships with groups passionate about health equity
- Collect and bring evidence (data on at risk populations) to those with power to change policy
- Seek grants and research opportunities to better understand the health equity and effects of social factors to promote application of findings by their policy makers.

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS – 6:15 P.M.**3.1 2016 Work Plan**

- Public Relations
 - Re-cap 2016 All City Volunteer Breakfast

J. Leese stated he attended the All City Volunteer Breakfast with D. Kane on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at the Knights of Columbus Marian Hall in Bloomington. He appreciated meeting volunteers from all across the City, and encouraged Commissioners to attend future events such as this. L. Pearson stated coffee mugs were passed out to volunteers as gifts, and Commissioners not in attendance at the Breakfast received their mugs.

- Re-cap Egg Hunt and Family Walk

Z. Bicott stated he worked the HRC booth with D. Kane at the Egg Hunt and Family Walk on March 26, 2016. He stated it was a fun event and many children were in attendance. Multicultural crayons, coloring books and finger puppets were passed out at the HRC booth.

- Diversity Day

D. Kane stated the Peace Run is taking place on Friday, May 6, 2016. D. Kunkel reported Jefferson High School is struggling to get students to sign up for the Peace Run. D. Kane stated the Diversity Day Keynote Speaker, Wing Young Huie, is presenting on Friday, May 6, 2016 at Jefferson High School at 8:00 a.m. and 8:55 a.m. and at Kennedy High School at 1:00 p.m. and 1:50 p.m. M. Carlson, S. Salato and S. Fishman signed up to work the HRC booth at Kennedy High School for Diversity Day on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 and M. Carlson and D. Kunkel signed up to work the HRC booth at Jefferson High School for Diversity Day on Friday, May 6, 2016. A sign up sheet was passed around to volunteer at the HRC booth at Olson Middle School Diversity Day on Friday, May 20, 2016, and M. Carlson tentatively

agreed to work the booth (needs to confirm). D. Kane will attend the City Council presentation for the t-shirt design logo contest winner on April 18, 2016 and J. Leese will attend the School Board presentation for the t-shirt logo contest design winner on April 25, 2016.

- Re-cap Metro South Resource Fair

S. Fishman stated many teachers and students stopped by the HRC booth at the Metro South Resource Fair on February 23, 2016.
- Community Center Task Force

D. Kane stated the Community Center Task Force met for the first time on April 4, 2016 and the time was spent introducing Task Force members and determining what the Task Force hopes to accomplish. Task Force meetings will take place throughout the summer, with their work finishing up in September.
- DDAC

J. McClellan reported on the DDAC meeting he attended on April 5, 2016.
- Kite Day

L. Pearson stated Kite Day is a free large multicultural event in Bloomington, taking place at the Valley View Play Fields on May 7, 2016. It is a day of family fun, with free kites given to children, free entertainment on stage, and this year will have booths from various community organizations. L. Pearson stated this is an opportunity for the HRC to interact with the community. M/J. Leese, S/Z. Bicott unanimously carried to have the HRC sponsor a booth at the 2016 Kite Day, if there is enough Commissioner interest. Z. Bicott, M. Carlson, D. Kunkel (must confirm) and D. Kane volunteered to assist with the HRC booth at the 2016 Kite Day.
- Re-cap New Resources for Comprehensive Plans

D. Kane stated he attended the New Resources for Comprehensive Plans, a workshop for cities in Hennepin County on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at the Minnetonka Community Center. There were approximately twenty-five (25) people in attendance, and he was the only person representing a Human Rights Commission in the audience. The workshop offered new resources to help cities with climate resilience, equity, food access and active living in the City's comprehensive plan. D. Kane stated he will attend future meetings, if they are offered.
- Bloomington Public Schools Family Unity Day

L. Pearson stated the HRC participated in Family Unity Day at Oak Grove Middle School last year, and Commissioners have been given the opportunity to participate again this year on April 30, 2016. S. Fishman stated she attended this event last year, and no one visited the HRC booth. L. Pearson stated the event is being re-structured and reminded Commissioners participating in Family Unity Day is part of the 2016 HRC Work Plan. D. Kane stated he will attend, and Z. Bicott will check his work schedule to see if he can assist.
- Equality

••US District Court

D. Kane stated "Slavery By Another Name" is taking place on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at Kennedy High School. J. Leese, J. McClellan and Z. Bicott plan to attend this program. J. Leese stated he intends to use this opportunity to gain insight for planning a Community Program in 2017 with the U.S. District Court. J. McClellan, Z. Bicott, M. Carlson and D. Kane have all volunteered to be part of planning the Community Program in 2017.
- Cultural Competence

••Asian Pacific Legal Experience Exhibit

D. Kane stated the Asian Pacific Legal Experience Exhibit will be in the lobby of Bloomington Civic Plaza May 3 – 23, 2016. L. Pearson stated Sia Her, Executive Director of the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans, will accept the Asian Pacific Heritage Month Proclamation at the May 2, 2016 City Council meeting. M/J. McClellan, S/Z. Bicott unanimously carried to approve the Asian Pacific Heritage Month Proclamation.
- Heritage Days

D. Kane stated the Heritage Days Committee is tasked with selecting the multicultural entertainment groups to be sponsored by the HRC at the

Heritage Days Family Stage on Saturday, September 17, 2016. M. Carlson, Z. Bicott, D. Kunkel and S. Salato signed-up to be part of the Heritage Days Committee.

••International Day of Peace

L. Pearson stated the International Day of Peace Committee will provide oversight in the planning of the Naturalization Ceremony taking place on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 and the International Day of Peace program taking place on Wednesday, September 21, 2016. I. Yusuf, M. Carlson, Z. Bicott and D. Kunkel signed-up to be part of the International Day of Peace Committee.

••Native American Heritage Month

D. Kane stated the Native American Heritage Month Committee will plan program(s) in November 2016 for Native American Heritage Month. J. McClellan, J. Leese, Z. Bicott and S. Fishman signed-up to be part of the Native American Heritage Month Committee.

• Leadership
••PACER “Unity” Awards

M. Carlson stated she and J. McClellan attended the first planning meeting for the PACER “Unity” Awards, through the National Bullying Prevention Center. The meeting focused on brainstorming what was done last year, what worked and what needs to be improved. In addition, they took a tour of the PACER facility. M. Carlson stated she is no longer able to attend the Awards Ceremony on May 25, 2016, but wishes to still be part of the planning committee. J. McClellan stated an artist from “American Idol” may perform at the Awards Ceremony.

3.2 Nominating Committee

J. Leese stated the HRC Executive Committee consists of a Chair, First Vice-Chair and Second Vice-Chair. He announced D. Kane has volunteered to continue on as Chair, J. Leese has volunteered to continue on as First Vice-Chair, and S. Salato and Z. Bicott have declared interest in the Second Vice-Chair opening. Z. Bicott withdrew his name from consideration for Second Vice-Chair. The Slate of Officers for the upcoming year are:

Chair: Dennis Kane
First Vice-Chair: Jared Leese
Second Vice-Chair: Savannah Salato

M/Z. Bicott, S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to approve the Slate of Officers as presented. J. Leese stated the Slate of Officers will be voted on at the May meeting.

3.3 Quarterly Inquiry/Complaint Report

L. Pearson announced the 2016 1st Quarter Inquiry/Complaint report was included in Commissioner packets. There were zero inquiries in January, zero inquiries in February and zero inquiries in March.

3.4 Review of By-laws

J. Leese stated the by-laws of the Human Rights Commission are reviewed annually in committee, with suggested changes presented to the full Commission at the May meeting. J. Leese, D. Kane, Z. Bicott and J. McClellan will review the by-laws and present their recommendation(s) in May.

IV. FINAL COMMENTS

There were no final comments.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

M/Z. Bicott, S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m.